



Rooted

GROW DEEP. LIVE STRONG.

Rooted in the Word of God

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

“The difference between reading and studying comes down to one factor: writing.”

A. Deane

Studying is not only reading, but interacting and meditating over scripture. Writing ensures that we are more engaged than simply reading. It allows us to put on paper what God is saying to us. In believing 2 Timothy 3:16-17, there are 2 essential questions to be considered when we approach scripture.

1. What is God saying?
2. What does God want me to do?

James 1:21-25 teaches us that one of the most important things that can happen when we spend time in God’s Word is that we are changed by it. This passage also tells us that a quick look in scripture does not do all the good that God means for it to do. We are changed when we know more intimately, and accurately, who God is. We can see the depth of the Gospel and know the next step in becoming more rooted and built up in Christ.

Approaching Scripture:

As a **NEW CREATION**: 1 Corinthians 2:14 tells us those that are not saved aren’t able to see and understand all that the saved can.

With **PRAYER**: John 14:13-14. Prayer is an opportunity to talk to the author of scripture. Begin and end your study time by asking God to speak. Pray over things that you are having trouble understanding. It is God’s desire that you know Him and His Word.

Pursuing **HOLINESS**: Sin is a barrier between us and God. Pursuing God and the understanding that He wants you to have will put you on a course toward living in a right way for Him. If we are pursuing sin, God’s Word will seem empty.

The STORY of Scripture:

We see in God’s creation that He wanted for humans to be close to Him and live in the presence of His perfection. The book of Revelation promises that future to those that belong to God. In between we see God’s plan for redemption reconciling our sinful condition. We see the story unfold in these general ways:

The NATURE OF GOD AND COVENANT PROMISE

The CURSE OF SIN AND DISOBEDIENCE

The BLESSING OF FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

The WORK OF JESUS IN REDEMPTION THROUGH GRACE

The CHURCH AND COMING KINGDOM

In God’s story, never fail to look for Jesus. He is the key to understanding scripture. (John 5:39-40 & Luke 25:24-27) Everything in the Old Testament foreshadows

the coming of Jesus. Everything in the New Testament is about Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and the Church.

3 Steps That God's Word Takes Toward Believers

REVELATION

God reveals truth to humans.

INSPIRATION

God leads people to communicate that truth

ILLUMINATION

God applies truth from His Word into our lives.

3 Steps That Believers Take Toward God's Word

OBSERVATION

"See It"

What does it say?

INTERPRETATION

"Know It"

What does it mean?

APPLICATION

"Do It"

What does it ask me to do?

WHAT IS GOD SAYING?

ABOUT HIMSELF

God does an amazing job at helping us understand who He is. God is perfectly consistent. If we learn accurately a truth about God, then it will remain true in all of scripture. The Old Testament is a great place to learn the character of God, In the New Testament, we see His grace, and His understanding of who we are through the life of Jesus.

THROUGH JESUS

As Christians, we are called to follow Jesus as Lord. God tells us what our lives are supposed to be through all that Jesus said and did.

ABOUT PEOPLE

God addresses four primary groups of people; Jews, Gentiles, the Church, and Individual Believers. WE ARE NOT THE STAR OF THE STORY! Everything we do or think is derived from who God is. The purpose of scripture is for us to know God.

ABOUT SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, & FAITHFULNESS

So much of life is about decisions. By understanding these concepts from God speaking, we will then be able to transition so much more effectively into the next question.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

WITH HIM

The most important relationship we have is with God. Anything that deals with our time with, or faithfulness to, Him is most important.

ON THE INSIDE

What are the thoughts and the emotions that God wants going on inside of me? Proverbs 4:23 teaches that what comes out of us begins inside of us. Jesus taught that sin in the heart is the same as visible sin.

ON THE OUTSIDE

How do I live the Word of God out in my life? There are specific ways that Jesus wants us to speak and act that reflect the Gospel. Our outward actions will be the overflow of what God does on the inside.

There are many methods to study God's Word, and many resources to help with your study. Please connect with us for more info. Also, look out this week for resources online that will expound beyond this handout.